

X. Appendix

Superpave (Gyratory Mix Design) Discussion

In 1987, the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP) began developing a new system for specifying asphaltic materials. The final product of the SHRP asphalt research program is a new system called Superpave, which is short for Superior Performing Asphalt Pavements. Superpave represents an improved system for specifying asphalt binders and mineral aggregates, developing HMA mixture design, and analyzing and establishing pavement performance prediction. The system was developed to provide the tools necessary to design HMA mixes that will perform better under heavy traffic and extreme temperatures. The goal is to provide pavements that are resistant to rutting, fatigue cracking, and low temperature cracking. The Superpave asphalt binder specification and mix design system include various test equipment, test methods, and criteria.

The unique feature of Superpave system is that it is a performance-based specification system. The tests and analyses have direct relationships to field performance. The Superpave asphalt binder tests measure physical properties that can be related directly to field performance by engineering principles.

Superpave mixes tend to be coarser than conventional mixes. The coarse-graded Superpave designed mixtures with high coarse aggregate content do typically act differently than the fine-graded mixtures, and this must be considered during compaction. Coarse-graded mixtures often tend to cool more quickly, resulting in less time available for rolling. This may require that additional rollers be provided and closer attention be paid to pavement compaction temperature.

It is important that the personnel working at the laydown site communicate with the plant personnel. If the mixture is acting differently underneath the rollers, then something may have changed at the plant. One of the most common changes in the plant-produced mixture is moisture content. A change in moisture content will have a significant effect on the handling and compaction characteristics of a Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) mixture. Sometimes very small changes at the plant can cause significant changes during compaction. So if the mixture appears to be acting differently, call the plant and see if something has changed.

The contractor must understand mixtures and their relationship to compaction. This understanding can be gained with experience, but only if one learns from the past mistakes and from procedures that have been successful. Equipment should be selected specifically for a project. Different mixtures require different compaction techniques. A set of rollers and a rolling pattern that worked on one project may not be satisfactory for another project. This can be evaluated during construction of a test strip.

Rollers should generally stay close behind the paver. If the mix begins to shove when rolled, additional rolling with steel-wheel rollers will likely be detrimental. The shoving mixture can usually be rolled with a rubber-tire roller without detrimental movement. When modifiers are used in a mixture, rubber-tire rollers may tend to pick up the asphalt and thus may have to be removed from the project.

If the contact pressure is too low, it may be difficult or impossible to meet density requirements. The contact pressure can be increased in steel-wheel rollers by increasing the weight of the roller. The contact pressure can be increased in rubber-tire rollers by increasing the tire pressure and/or increasing the weight.

On some Superpave designed mixtures, a tender zone has been identified in temperature ranges of approximately 200-240 F. The mixture can be satisfactorily compacted above this range or below this range, but the mixture is tender within the temperature range and can not be adequately compacted. This is not true for all mixtures, but it has been observed for some Superpave designed mixtures. The mix can often be satisfactorily rolled with rubber-tire rollers within this tender range, but may experience pick-up problems when modifier binders are used.

When a mixture is being produced that is tender within the mid-temperature range, the preferred compaction method is to obtain density prior to cooling to the tender zone. This may require additional rollers or, in some cases, the mixture temperature may be increased slightly to provide more compaction time.

It has been suggested that tenderness at mid-range temperatures may be due to incomplete drying of the aggregate in the mix. Moisture trapped in the cracks and fissures of the stone is ultimately released by manipulation of the mix, causing the mix to become more fluid (tender). While this theory has not been conclusively proven, it does suggest that close attention be paid to the aggregate drying process. In addition, use of proper stockpiling and aggregate handling procedures will help minimize the potential for excess moisture in the mix.

Percent Within Limits (PWL) Specifications on HMA Projects

A revised HMA specification has been developed for use on selected projects in 2009 and 2010. This Developmental Specification (DS) replaces Section 2303 of the Standard Specifications, and modifies IM 511 and IM 204 Appendix F. The DS is intended to provide incentives to the contractor to produce HMA that is consistently within specification and on target.

To accomplish this, methods were developed to analyze the test data and determine the amount of material that complies with the specifications. The result of the analysis is called the “Percent Within Limits” or PWL. Section 2303 does not provide for incentive payments to the contractor for providing a superior quality product, only disincentives for poor quality. The current PWL Specification (DS-09040) provides incentive payments for both field voids and lab voids. The contractor can earn these bonuses by controlling the production and construction operations to provide a consistent mixture on target and mat compaction that is both consistent and thorough. The goal is to “make quality pay” for those contractors that provide the best product.

Both incentives and disincentives are based on equations that provide a smooth and continuous payment schedule, rather than the stepped price adjustment schedules used in the past. Field voids will be analyzed daily because eight core density values will be available each day. Lab voids, however, will require grouping of days or lots to obtain at least eight test values before the PWL incentive/disincentive pay factors will be calculated. For bid items with quantities that result in less than eight total lab voids results, a special pay schedule based on Average Absolute Deviation from target (AAD) will be used.

The HMA Plant Report Program and the QC Charting Program have been modified to accumulate the needed test data and calculate the pay factors for the mix. The programs will handle an eighth core and a fifth HMA sample, as required by the DS. The modified versions will be made available for use on the selected projects.

Technicians who will be involved in projects where the PWL Specification applies will need to be familiar with all changes and the effect that the differences in requirements will make to the contractor’s operations and to contract administration.

The table on the following pages contains a comparison of Section 2303 to DS-09040. The specification differences are broken up into General, Sampling, Testing, and Payment categories, with a brief description given in each case.

→ *Please note that similar comparisons may be made for future versions of the PWL Specification that supercede DS-09040.*

Comparison of Standard Specifications to PWL Specifications

Type	Section 2303 (Std. Spec.)	DS-09040 (PWL Spec.)
General	Contractor QC required for contracts with 5000 tons or more of HMA.	Contractor QC required for bid items with more than 1000 tons of HMA.
General	Class 1A, 1B and 1C compaction requiring 96%, 95% and 94% of lab density (G_{mb}) respectively.	Class 1 compaction requiring a minimum of 91.5% of maximum specific gravity (G_{mm}) for all mainline paving.
General	Average percent field air voids on cores shall not exceed 8.0%.	No maximum average field air voids. QI and PWL calculated for field voids based on 8.5% maximum and 3.5% minimum field voids limits.
General	Test strips required for intermediate and surface courses on Interstate highways and surface courses on Primary highways.	Test strips required same as 2303, with additional test strips optional for the contractor. 9.0% maximum field voids limit for test strips.
General	Test strips limited to 750 tons for lift thicknesses of 2 inches or less or 1000 tons for lifts greater than 2 inches.	Test strips limited to one half of a day's normal production.
General	No contractor testing plan required.	Contractor testing plan required prior to pre-con as per IM 511, Appendix D.
Sampling	7 cores required per lot.	8 cores required per lot.
Sampling	30 pounds minimum HMA sample.	40 pounds minimum HMA sample.
Sampling	Cold-feed aggregate samples directed and witnessed by the Engineer daily.	Cold-feed aggregate samples directed and witnessed by the Engineer on the first day only.
Sampling	Contractor must obtain samples within 15 minutes of being notified to sample.	Sampling must be initiated within 15 minutes and completed within 30 minutes of being notified to sample.

Type	Section 2303 (Std. Spec.)	DS-09040 (PWL Spec.)												
Sampling	<p>Loose HMA samples for lots of 2000 tons or greater will be obtained from sublots.</p> <p>The first subplot will be 500 tons, with three additional sublots determined by dividing the remainder by three.</p> <p>For lots less than 2000 tons, the first subplot will be 500 tons and the remaining sublots will be 750 tons each.</p>	<p>Equal sublots determined by dividing the estimated tonnage by the number of sublots in following table:</p> <table><tr><th>Estimated Tons (Mg)</th><th>No. of Sublots</th></tr><tr><td>101-500</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>501-1250</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>1251-2000</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>2001-4500</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>Over 4500</td><td>5</td></tr></table>	Estimated Tons (Mg)	No. of Sublots	101-500	1	501-1250	2	1251-2000	3	2001-4500	4	Over 4500	5
Estimated Tons (Mg)	No. of Sublots													
101-500	1													
501-1250	2													
1251-2000	3													
2001-4500	4													
Over 4500	5													
Testing	Lab voids (P _a) shall be maintained within a tolerance of -0.5 to +1.0 from the target value.	Tolerances for lab voids (P _a) are ±1.0% from the target value.												
Testing	Moving average of four tests used for lab voids acceptance. Shut-down required if moving average is outside the tolerances.	Weekly lots of lab voids used to calculate PWL if 8 tests or more are run. Weeks may be grouped to obtain 8 tests. AAD calculated for bid items with less than 8 lab voids tests. No shut-down required.												
Testing	Validation of contractor’s cold-feed gradation by the District Lab is performed on split samples.	Validation of contractor’s cold-feed gradation by the District Lab is performed by comparing the contractor’s results to an ignition oven gradation.												
Testing	No gradation correction factors required.	Correction factors determined on first day of production by comparing DOT gradation test results on a cold-feed sample to DOT gradation results on an ignition oven sample.												
Payment	If lot average gradation is outside tolerances, price adjustment schedule is applied.	No price adjustment for gradation. Target change or JMF adjustment required if gradation is outside tolerances.												

Type	Section 2303 (Std. Spec.)	DS-09040 (PWL Spec.)
Payment	If filler/bitumen ratio is outside the tolerances, price adjustment schedule is applied.	No price adjustment for filler/bitumen ratio. If filler/bitumen ratio is outside the tolerances, contractor must adjust to start production the next day.
Payment	If QI for field density cores is less than 0.00, 75% maximum pay or the Engineer may declare the lot or parts of the lot defective.	If PWL for field voids is less than 50%, 75% maximum pay or the Engineer may declare the lot or parts of the lot deficient or unacceptable.
Payment	Outliers for cores removed if 1.80 standard deviations or greater from the mean.	Outliers for cores removed if 1.80 standard deviations or greater from the mean (same as Section 2303).
Payment	No incentive paid for field density. Price adjustments based on 4-step QI pay schedule.	Incentive paid for field voids PWL greater than 95%, up to a maximum of 4%. Price adjustments based on equations.
Payment	No price adjustments or incentive paid for lab voids.	Incentive paid for lab voids PWL greater than 95%, up to a maximum of 3%. Price adjustments based on equations. If fewer than 8 lab voids results available for a bid item, price adjustments based on AAD schedule with no incentive pay.
Payment	If the percent of asphalt binder in the mix is outside the tolerances, price adjustment schedule is applied.	No price adjustment for binder content. Contractor may adjust binder content as needed to achieve a uniform mix.
Payment	Test strips paid for same as rest of mix.	Special pay schedules for test strips.

Factors Influencing Compaction

Item	Effect	Corrections*
<i>Aggregate</i>		
Smooth Surfaces	Low interparticle friction	Use light rollers; lower mix temperature
Rough Surfaces	High interparticle friction	Use heavy rollers
Unsound	Breaks under steel-wheeled rollers	Use sound aggregate; use pneumatic rollers
Absorptive	Dries mix – difficult to compact	Increase asphalt in mix
<i>Asphalt</i>		
Viscosity		
– High	Particle movement restricted	Use heavy rollers; increase temperature
– Low	Particles move easily during compaction	Use light rollers; decrease temperature
Quantity		
– High	Unstable & plastic under roller	Decrease asphalt in mix
– Low	Reduced lubrication – difficult compaction	Increase asphalt in mix; use heavy rollers
<i>Mix</i>		
Excess Coarse Aggregate	Harsh mix – difficult to compact	Reduce coarse aggregate; use heavy rollers
Oversanded	Too workable – difficult to compact	Reduce sand in mix; use light rollers
Too Much Filler	Stiffens mix – difficult to compact	Reduce filler in mix; use heavy rollers
Too Little Filler	Low cohesion – mix may come apart	Increase filler in mix
<i>Mix Temperature</i>		
High	Difficult to compact – mix lacks cohesion	Decrease mixing temperature
Low	Difficult to compact – mix too stiff	Increase mixing temperature
<i>Course Thickness</i>		
Thick Lifts	Hold heat – more time to compact	Roll normally
Thin Lifts	Lose heat – less time to compact	Roll before mix cools; increase mix temperature
<i>Weather Conditions</i>		
Low Air Temperature	Cools mix rapidly	Roll before mix cools
Low Surface Temperature	Cools mix rapidly	Increase mix temperature
Wind	Cools mix – crusts surface	Increase lift thickness
* Corrections may be made on a trial basis at the plant or job site. Additional remedies may be derived from changes in mix design.		

Mat Problem Trouble-Shooting Guide

Problem	Causes	Excessive Play in Screed Mechanical Connection	Overcorrecting Thickness Control Screws	Too Little Lead Crown in Screed	Finisher Speed Too Fast	Feeder Screws Overloaded	Fluctuating Head of Material	Screed Plates Not Tight	Running Hopper Empty Between Loads	Kicker Screws Worn Out or Mounted Incorrectly	Screed Extensions Installed Too Short	Vibrators Running Too Slow	Grade Control Hunting (Sensitivity Too Slow)	Grade Control Wand Bouncing on Reference	Sitting Long Period Between Loads	Improper Mat Thickness for Maximum Aggregate Overlap	Trucks Bumping Finisher	Improper Base Preparation	Reversing or Turning Too Fast of Rollers	Improper Roller on Hot Mat	Improper Mix Design (Aggregate)	Improper Mix Design (Asphalt)	Mix Segregation	Moisture in Mix	Variation of Mix Temperature	Cold Mix Temperature
Wavy Surface – Short Waves (Ripples)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Wavy Surface – Long Waves		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tearing of Mat – Full Width		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tearing of Mat – Center Streak		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tearing of Mat – Outside Streaks		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mat Texture – Nonuniform		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Screed Marks		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Screed Not Responding to Correction		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Auger Shadows		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Poor Precompaction		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Poor Longitudinal Joint		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Poor Transverse Joint		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Transverse Cracking (Checking)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mat Shoving Under Roller		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Roller Marks		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Poor Mix Compaction		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

NOTE: Many times a problem can be caused by more than one item, therefore, it is important that each cause listed be eliminated to assure solving the problem.

Procedure for Using Table

1. Find problem above.

2. Checks indicate causes related to the paver.

X's indicate other problems to be investigated.

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Asphalt Terminology

Aggregate

A hard inert mineral material, such as gravel, crushed rock, slag, or crushed stone, used in pavement applications either by itself or for mixing with asphalt.

Aggregate Storage Bins

Bins that store the necessary aggregate sizes and feed them to the dryer in substantially the same proportions as are required in the finished mix.

Air Voids

Internal spaces in a compacted mix surrounded by asphalt-coated particles, expressed as a percentage by volume of the total compacted mix.

Alligator Cracks

Interconnected cracks forming a series of small blocks resembling an alligator's skin or chicken-wire, caused by excessive deflection of the surface over unstable subgrade or lower courses of the pavement.

Asphalt (Asphalt Binder/Cement)

A dark brown to black cementitious material in which the predominating constituents are bitumens, which occur in nature or are obtained in petroleum processing. Asphalt is a constituent in varying proportions of most crude petroleum and is used for paving, roofing, industrial and other special purposes.

Asphalt Binder

Asphalt cement that is classified according to the Standard Specification for Performance Graded Asphalt Binder, AASHTO Designation MP1. It can be either unmodified or modified asphalt cement, as long as it complies with the specifications.

Asphalt Binder Content

A measurement (by weight) of the asphalt binder in the mix, usually expressed as a percentage.

Asphalt Distributor

A truck or a trailer having an insulated tank, heating system and distribution system. The distributor applies asphalt to a surface at a uniform rate.

Asphalt Emulsion

An emulsion of asphalt binder and water that contains a small amount of an emulsifying agent. Emulsified asphalt droplets may be of either the anionic (negative charge), cationic (positive charge), or nonionic (neutral).

Asphalt Pavements

Pavements consisting of a surface course of asphalt concrete over supporting courses such as asphalt concrete bases, crushed stone, slag, gravel, Portland Cement Concrete (PCC), brick, or block pavement.

Asphalt Prime Coat

An application of asphalt primer to an absorbent surface. It is used to prepare an untreated base for an asphalt surface. The prime penetrates or is mixed into the surface of the base and plugs the voids, hardens the top and helps bind it to the overlying asphalt course.

Asphalt Primer

Low viscosity asphalt (highly liquid) that penetrates into a non-bituminous surface upon application.

Base Course

The layer in the pavement system immediately below the intermediate and surface courses. It usually consists of crushed stone, although it may consist of crushed slag or other stabilized or unstabilized material.

Batch Plant

A manufacturing facility for producing asphalt paving mixtures that proportions blending. They manufacture asphalt in batches rather than continuously and are more suited for small manufacturing runs and (frequent) changes in mixture types.

Bitumen

A class of black or dark-colored (solid, semisolid, or viscous) cementitious substances, natural or manufactured, composed principally of high molecular weight hydrocarbons, of which asphalts, tars, pitches and asphaltites are typical.

Blast-Furnace Slag

The nonmetallic product, consisting essentially of silicates and aluminosilicates of lime and of other bases, that develops simultaneously with iron in a blast furnace.

Bleeding or Flushing Asphalt

The upward migration of asphalt binder in an asphalt pavement resulting in the formation of asphalt film on the surface.

Blow-Up

The localized buckling or upward movement of a PCC pavement caused primarily by excessive expansion.

Break and Seat

A fractured slab technique used in the rehabilitation of Reinforced Concrete Pavement (RCP) that minimizes slab action by fracturing the PCC layer into smaller segments. This reduction in slab length (and debonding from the reinforcement steel) minimizes reflective cracking in new HMA overlays.

Breaking

The phenomenon when asphalt and water separates in an asphalt emulsion beginning the curing process. The rate of breaking is controlled primarily by the emulsifying agent, and somewhat dependant on environmental conditions.

Coarse Aggregate

Aggregate retained on the 2.36 mm (No. 8) sieve.

Coarse-Graded Aggregate

One having a continuous grading in sizes of particles from coarse through fine with a predominance of coarse sizes.

Cohesion

Bonding of aggregates by asphalt binder in HMA, increasing stability of the mixture.

Cold In-Place Recycling

A method of reconstructing an existing HMA pavement into a flexible base, to be used as a platform for subsequent overlay or surface treatment. The process consists of milling the existing pavement, mixing the milled material with a rejuvenating agent, and placing and compacting the mixture to specified grade and profile.

Cold In-Place Recycling Train

A unit consisting of a large milling machine towing a screening/crushing plant and pugmill mixer for the addition of rejuvenating agent and production of cold mix base.

Compaction

The act of compressing a given volume of material into a smaller volume.

Consensus Properties

Aggregate characteristics that must follow certain criteria to satisfy a Superpave mix design. Specified test values for these properties are not source specific but widely agreed upon. They include Coarse Aggregate Angularity, Fine Aggregate Angularity, Flat or Elongated Particles, and Clay Content.

Consistency (Asphalt Binder)

The degree of fluidity of asphalt binder (cement) at any particular temperature. The consistency of asphalt binder varies with its temperature; therefore, it is necessary to use a common or standard temperature when comparing the consistency of one asphalt binder with another.

Corrugations (Washboarding) and Shoving

A type of pavement distortion, typically occurring on HMA layers that lack stability. Corrugation is a form of plastic deformation typified by ripples across the pavement surface. These distortions usually occur at points where traffic starts and stops, on hills where vehicles brake on the downgrade, on sharp curves, or where bumps cause vehicles to bounce up and down.

Crack

An approximately vertical random cleavage of the pavement caused by traffic loading, thermal stresses and/or aging of the binder.

Crack and Seat

A fractured slab technique used in the rehabilitation of PCC pavements that minimizes slab action in a jointed concrete pavement by fracturing the PCC layer into smaller segments. This reduction in slab length minimizes reflective cracking in HMA overlays.

Crack-Relief Layer

An open-graded asphalt mixture placed over a distressed pavement that minimizes reflective cracking by absorbing the energy produced by movement in the underlying pavement.

Curing

The development of the mechanical properties of the asphalt binder. This occurs after the emulsion has broken and the emulsion particles coalesce and bond to the aggregate.

Cutback Asphalt

Asphalt cement that has been liquefied by blending with petroleum solvents (diluent). Upon exposure to atmospheric conditions the diluents evaporate, leaving the asphalt cement to perform its function.

Deep Strength Asphalt Pavement

Pavement containing at least four inches of HMA over non-stabilized base courses.

Deflection

A load-induced, downward movement of a pavement section.

Delivery Tolerances

Permissible variations from the exact desired proportions of aggregate and bituminous material as manufactured by an asphalt plant.

Dense-Graded Aggregate

An aggregate that has a particle size distribution such that when it is compacted, the resulting voids between the aggregate particles, expressed as a percentage of the total space occupied by the material, are less than 10%.

Densification

The act of increasing the density of a mixture during the compaction process.

Density

The unit weight or the weight of a specific volume of mix.

Design ESAL

The total number of equivalent 80-kN (18,000-lb.), single-axle load applications (equivalent single axle loads) expected throughout the design period.

Design Lane

The lane on which the greatest number of equivalent 80-kN (18,000-lb.) single axle loads (ESAL) is expected. This will normally be either lane of a two-lane roadway or the outside lane of a multi-lane highway.

Design Period

The number of years from the initial application of traffic until the first planned major resurfacing or overlay. This term should not be confused with pavement life or analysis period. Adding HMA overlays as required will extend pavement life indefinitely or until geometric considerations (or other factors) make the pavement obsolete.

Disintegration

The breaking up of a pavement into small, loose fragments caused by traffic or weathering.

Distortion

Any change of a pavement surface from its original shape.

Drum Mix (Continuous) Plant

A manufacturing facility for producing asphalt paving mixtures that proportions the aggregate, then dries and coats the aggregate with a proportional amount of asphalt in the same drum. Variations of this type of plant use several types of drum modifications, separate (and smaller) mixing drums, and coating units (coater) to accomplish the mixing process. They are more suited for long runs of the same product.

Dryer

An apparatus that will dry the aggregates and heat them to the specified temperatures.

Ductility

The ability of a substance to be drawn out or stretched thin. While ductility is considered an important characteristic of asphalt cements in many applications, the presence or absence of ductility is usually considered more significant than the actual degree of ductility.

Durability

The property of an asphalt pavement that represents its ability to resist disintegration by weathering and traffic.

Edge Joint Cracks

The separation of the joint between the pavement and the shoulder, commonly caused by the alternate wetting and drying beneath the shoulder surface. Other causes are shoulder settlement, mix shrinkage, and trucks straddling the joint.

Effective Thickness

The ratio of the thickness of an existing pavement material compared to the equivalent thickness of a new HMA later.

Emulsifying Agent or Emulsifier

The chemical added to the water and asphalt that keeps the asphalt in stable suspension in the water. The emulsifier determines the charge of the emulsion and controls the breaking rate.

ESAL (Equivalent Single Axle Loads)

The effect on pavement performance of any combination of axle loads of varying magnitude equated to the number of 80-kN (18,000-lb.) single-axle loads that are required to produce an equivalent effect.

Fatigue Resistance

The ability of asphalt pavement to resist crack initiation caused by repeated flexing.

Fault

A difference in elevation of two slabs at a joint or crack.

Fine Aggregate

Aggregate passing the 2.36 mm (No. 8) sieve.

Fine-Graded Aggregate

One having a continuous grading in sizes of particles from coarse through fine with a predominance of fine sizes.

Flexibility

The ability of an asphalt pavement structure to conform to settlement of the foundation. Generally, flexibility of the asphalt paving mixture is enhanced by high asphalt content.

Fog Seal

A light application of diluted asphalt emulsion. It is used to renew old asphalt surfaces, seal small cracks and surface voids, and inhibit raveling.

Fractured Slab Techniques

Processes used to rehabilitate PCC pavements by eliminating slab action through the reduction of slab size (Crack/Break and Seat) or the pulverization of the PCC slab (Rubblization) into essentially a granular base.

Full-Depth Asphalt Pavement

The term FULL-DEPTH (registered by the Asphalt Institute with the U.S. Patent Office) certifies that the pavement is one in which asphalt mixtures are employed for all courses above the prepared subgrade or subbase.

Grade Depressions

Localized low areas of limited size.

Heavy Trucks

Two-axle, six-tire trucks or larger. Pickup, panel and light four-tire trucks are not included. Trucks with heavy-duty, wide-base tires are included.

Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA)

High quality, thoroughly controlled hot mixture of asphalt binder (cement) and well-graded, high quality aggregate, which can be compacted into a uniform dense mass.

Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Overlay

One or more courses of HMA over an existing pavement.

Impermeability

The resistance an asphalt pavement has to the passage of air and water into or through the pavement.

Intermediate Course

The hot mix asphalt course immediately below the surface course, sometimes consisting of larger aggregates and less asphalt (by weight) than the surface. (aka: Binder Course)

Kinematic Viscosity

A measure of the viscosity of asphalt, measured in centistokes, conducted at a temperature of 135°C (275°F).

Lane Joint Cracks

Longitudinal separations along the seam between two paving lanes.

Leveling Course

A course of hot mix asphalt of variable thickness used to eliminate irregularities in the contour of an existing surface prior to placing the subsequent course.

Lift

A layer or course of paving material applied to a base or a previous layer.

Lime Treated Subgrade

A subgrade preparation technique in which the subgrade soil and added lime are mechanically mixed and compacted to produce a higher modulus base material than the in-situ material.

Lime-Fly Ash Base

A road base material consisting of a blend of mineral aggregate, lime, fly ash, and water, which when combined in proper proportions and compacted produces a dense mass of increased strength.

Load Equivalency Factor

The number of 80-kN (18,000-lb.) single-axle load applications (ESAL) contributed by one passage of an axle.

Longitudinal Crack

A vertical crack in the pavement that follows a course approximately parallel to the centerline.

Maintenance Mix

A mixture of asphalt emulsion and mineral aggregate for use in relatively small areas to patch holes, depressions, and distressed areas in existing pavements. Appropriate hand or mechanical methods are used in placing and compacting the mix.

Mechanical Spreaders

Spreader boxes that are mounted on wheels. The spreaders are attached to and pushed by dump trucks (HMA boxes are pulled and chip spreaders are pushed).

Medium-Curing (MC) Asphalt

Cutback asphalt composed of asphalt cement and a diluent of medium volatility.

Mesh

The square opening of a sieve.

Micro-Surfacing

A mixture of polymer modified asphalt emulsion, crushed dense graded aggregate, mineral filler, additives and water. It provides a resurfacing of 10 to 20 mm (3/8 to 3/4 inch) to the pavement.

Milling Machine

A self-propelled unit having a cutting head equipped with carbide-tipped tools for the pulverization and removal of layers of asphalt materials from pavements.

Mineral Dust

The portion of the fine aggregate passing the 0.075 mm (No. 200) sieve.

Mineral Filler

A finely divided mineral product, at least 70 percent of which will pass a 0.075 mm (No. 200) sieve. Pulverized limestone is the most commonly manufactured filler, although other stone dust, hydrated lime, Portland cement, and certain natural deposits of finely divided mineral matter are also used.

Natural (Native) Asphalt

Asphalt occurring in nature, which has been derived from petroleum through natural processes of evaporation of volatile fractions, leaving the asphalt fractions. The native asphalt of most importance is found in the Trinidad and Bermudez Lake deposits. Asphalt from these sources is often called lake asphalt.

Nondestructive Testing (NDT)

In the context of pavement evaluation, NDT is deflection testing, without destruction to the pavement, to determine a pavement's response to pavement loading.

Overlay

The placement of hot asphalt over existing asphalt bound with a tack coat. (Resurfacing)

Pavement Base

The lower or underlying pavement course atop the subbase or subgrade and under the top or wearing course.

Pavement Structure

The entire pavement system of selected materials from subgrade to the surface.

Penetration

The consistence of a bituminous material expressed as the distance (in tenths of a millimeter) that a standard needle penetrates a sample vertically under specified conditions of loading, time and temperature.

Penetration Grading

A classification system of asphalt cements based on penetration in 0.1 mm at 25°C (77°F). There are five standard penetration grades for paving: 40-50, 60-70, 85-100, 120-150, and 200-300.

Performance Graded (PG) Binder

Asphalt binder grade designation used in Superpave. It is based on the binder's mechanical performance at critical temperatures and aging conditions.

Planned Stage Construction

A construction process where stages of the project are performed sequentially according to design and a predetermined time schedule.

Plant Mix (Cold)

A mixture of emulsified (or cutback) asphalt and unheated mineral aggregate prepared in a central mixing plant and spread and compacted with conventional paving equipment while the mixture is at or near ambient temperature.

Plant Screens

Screens located between the dryer and hot bins, which separate heated aggregates into proper hot bin sizes.

Pneumatic-Tire Roller

A compactor with a number of tires spaced so their tracks overlap delivering a kneading type of compaction.

Polished Aggregate

Aggregate particles in a pavement surface that have been worn smooth by traffic.

Polymer-Modified Asphalt Binder

Conventional asphalt cement to which one or more polymer compounds have been added to improve resistance to deformation at high pavement temperatures and often cracking resistance at low temperatures.

Potholes

Bowl-shaped openings in the pavement resulting from localized disintegration.

Power Sweeper

A power operated rotary broom used to clean loose material from the pavement surface.

Present Serviceability

The ability of a specific section of pavement to serve its intended use in its existing condition.

Pumping

Slab deflection under passing loads sometimes resulting in the discharge of water and subgrade soils along joints, cracks and pavement edges.

Rapid-Curing (RC) Asphalt

Cutback asphalt composed of asphalt cement and a naphtha or gasoline-type diluent of high volatility.

Raveling

The progressive separation of aggregate particles in a pavement from the surface downward or from the edges inward.

Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP)

Excavated asphalt pavement that has been pulverized, usually by milling, and is used like an aggregate in the recycling of asphalt pavements.

Reclaiming Machine

A self-propelled unit having a transverse cutting and mixing head inside a closed chamber for the pulverization and mixing of existing pavement materials with asphalt emulsion. Asphalt emulsion (and mixing water) may be added directly through the machine by a liquid additive system and spray bar.

Recycled Asphalt Mix

A mixture produced after processing existing asphalt pavement materials. The recycled mix may be produced by hot or cold mixing at a plant, or by processing the materials cold and in-place.

Reflection Cracks

Cracks in asphalt overlays (usually over deteriorated PCC pavements) that reflect the crack or joint pattern in the pavement structure below it.

Residue

The asphalt binder that remains from an asphalt emulsion after the emulsifying agent has broken and cured, or the remains of a cutback after the volatiles have cured.

Resilient Modulus of Elasticity

A laboratory measurement of the behavior of pavement materials to characterize their stiffness and resiliency. A confined or unconfined test specimen (core or recompacted) is repeatedly loaded and unloaded at a prescribed rate. The resilient modulus is a function of load duration, load frequency, and number of loading cycles.

Road Oil

Asphalt binder (cement) and oils of low volatility, usually similar to one of the slow-curing (SC) grades.

Roadway

All facilities on which motor vehicles are intended to travel such as Interstate highways, secondary roads, streets and parking lots.

Roughometer

An instrumented, single-wheel trailer, which measures the roughness of a pavement surface in accumulated millimeters, or inches, per mile.

Rubblization

The pulverization of a Portland cement concrete pavement into smaller particles, reducing the existing pavement layer to a sound, structural base that will be compatible with subsequent asphalt overlay.

Rutting (Channeling)

Channeled depressions that sometimes develop in the wheel paths of an asphalt pavement, usually due to extreme temperatures combined with high wheel loads.

Sand

Fine aggregate (any fraction below a No. 8 sieve) resulting from natural disintegration and abrasion or processing of rock.

Sandy Soil

A material consisting essentially of fine aggregate particles smaller than 2.36 mm (No. 8) sieve and usually containing material passing a 75 μm (No. 200) sieve. This material usually exhibits some plasticity characteristics.

Saw-Cut and Seal

A method of controlling reflective cracking in HMA overlays that involves construction of joints in the new overlay exactly over the joints in the existing pavement.

Scaling

The peeling away or disintegrating of the surface of Portland cement concrete.

Seal Coat

A thin surface treatment used to improve the surface texture and protect an asphalt surface. The main types of seal coats are fog seals, sand seals, slurry seals, micro-surfacing, and chip seals.

Self-Propelled Spreaders

Spreaders having their own power units and two hoppers. The spreader pulls the truck as it dumps its load into the receiving hopper. Conveyor belts move the aggregate forward to the spreading hopper.

Shoving

A form of plastic movement resulting in localized bulging of the pavement.

Shrinkage Cracks

Interconnected cracks forming a series of large blocks, usually with sharp corners or angles.

Sieve

An apparatus for laboratory work in which the openings in the mesh are square for separating sizes of material.

Skid Hazard

Any condition that might contribute to the reduction of friction forces on the pavement surface.

Skid Resistance

The ability of a paved surface, particularly when wet, to offer resistance to slipping or skidding. Proper asphalt content and aggregate with a rough surface texture are the greatest contributors. The aggregate must also resist polishing.

Slippage Cracks

Crescent-shaped cracks resulting from traffic-induced horizontal forces that are open in the direction of the thrust of wheels of the pavement surface. They result when severe or repeated shear stresses are applied to the surface and there is a lack of bond between the surface layer and the course beneath.

Slow-Curing (SC) Asphalt

Cutback asphalt composed of asphalt cement and oils of low volatility.

Slurry Seal

A mixture of emulsified asphalt, well-graded fine aggregate, mineral filler or other additives, and water. A slurry seal will fill minor cracks, restore a uniform surface texture, and restore friction values.

Soil/Cement Base

A hardened material formed by curing a mechanically mixed and compacted mixture of pulverized soil, Portland cement and water used as a layer in a pavement system to reinforce and protect the subgrade.

Solubility

A measure of the purity of asphalt binder (cement). The ability of the portion of the asphalt binder that is soluble to be dissolved in a specified solvent.

Source Properties

Aggregate characteristics that must follow certain criteria to satisfy a Superpave mix design. They include Toughness, Soundness, and Deleterious Materials.

Spalling

The breaking or chipping of a PCC pavement at joints, cracks, or edges, usually resulting in fragments with feathered edges.

Stability

The ability of an asphalt paving mixture to resist deformation from imposed loads. Stability is dependent upon both internal friction and cohesion.

Stationary Plants

Asphalt plants that are so constructed that moving them is not considered economically feasible.

Steel-Wheel Static Rollers

Tandem or three-wheel rollers with cylindrical steel rolls that apply their weight directly to the pavement.

Steel-Wheel Vibratory Rollers

A compactor having single or double cylindrical steel rolls that applies compactive effort with weight and vibration. The amount of compactive force is adjusted by changing the frequency and amplitude of vibration.

Structural Overlay

An HMA overlay constructed for the purpose of increasing the structural value and ride quality of the pavement system.

Subbase

The course in the asphalt pavement structure immediately below the base course.

Subgrade

The soil prepared to support a pavement structure or a pavement system. It is the foundation of the pavement structure.

Subgrade, Improved

Subgrade that has been improved as a working platform by the incorporation of granular materials or stabilizers such as asphalt, lime, or Portland cement into the subgrade soil.

Superpave

Short for "Superior Performing Asphalt Pavement", a pavement-based system for selecting and specifying asphalt binders and for designing asphalt mixtures.

Superpave Gyratory Compactor

A device used during Superpave mix design or quality control activities for compacting samples of hot mix asphalt into specimens used for volumetric analysis. Continuous densification of the specimen is measured during the compaction process.

Superpave Mix Design

An asphalt mixture design system that integrates the selection of materials (asphalt, aggregate) and volumetric proportioning with the project's climate and design traffic.

Tack Coat

A relatively thin application of asphalt binder applied to an existing asphalt concrete or PCC surface at a prescribed rate. Asphalt emulsion diluted with water is the preferred type. It is used to form a bond between an existing surface and the overlying course.

Transverse Crack

A crack that follows a course approximately at right angles to the centerline.

Travel Plants

Self-propelled pugmill plants that proportion and mix aggregates and asphalt as they move along the road.

Truck Factor

The number of ESALs contributed by one passage of a vehicle. Truck Factors can apply to vehicles of a single type or class or to a group of vehicles of different types.

Upheaval

The localized upward displacement of a pavement due to swelling of the subgrade or some portion of the pavement structure.

Viscosity

A measure of a liquid's resistance to flow with respect to time.

Viscosity Grading

A classification system of asphalt cements based on viscosity ranges at two critical temperatures: 60°C (140°F) approximates the maximum temperature of an asphalt pavement surface in service in the U.S., and 135°C (275°F) approximates the typical mixing and laydown temperature for hot mix asphalt pavements.

Voids in the Mineral Aggregate (VMA)

Void spaces that exist between the aggregate particles in the compacted mix, including spaces filled with asphalt binder. It represents the space available to accommodate effective volume of asphalt binder and air voids in the compacted mix.

Well-Graded Aggregate

Aggregate graded with relatively uniform proportions, from the maximum size down to filler.

Wet Mixing Period

The interval of time between the beginning of application of asphalt materials into a pugmill and the opening of the discharge gate.

Workability

The ease with which paving mixtures may be placed and compacted.